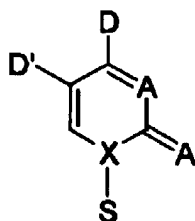


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**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims as required by 37 C.F.R. 1.121 will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

1. (Original) An immunostimulatory oligonucleotide compound, comprising an immunostimulatory dinucleotide of formula 5'-pyrimidine-purine-3', wherein pyrimidine is a non-natural pyrimidine nucleoside and purine is a natural or non-natural purine nucleoside.
2. (Original) An immunostimulatory oligonucleotide compound, comprising an immunostimulatory dinucleotide of formula C\*pG, wherein C\* is a cytidine analog, G is guanosine, 2'-deoxyguanosine, or a guanosine analog, and p is an internucleotide linkage selected from the group consisting of phosphodiester, phosphorothioate, and phosphorodithioate.
3. (Original) The immunostimulatory oligonucleotide compound of claim 0, wherein the non-natural pyrimidine nucleoside has the formula (I):



(I)

wherein D is a hydrogen bond donor, D' is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydrogen bond donor, hydrogen bond acceptor, hydrophilic group, hydrophobic group, electron withdrawing group and electron donating group, A is a hydrogen bond acceptor or a hydrophilic group, X is carbon or nitrogen, and S is a

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pentose or hexose sugar ring, provided that the pyrimidine nucleoside of formula (I) is not cytidine or deoxycytidine.

4. (Original) The immunostimulatory oligonucleotide compound of claim 3, wherein the non-natural pyrimidine nucleoside includes a non-naturally occurring pyrimidine base.
5. (Original) The immunostimulatory oligonucleotide compound of claim 4, wherein the non-naturally occurring pyrimidine base is selected from the group consisting of 5-hydroxycytosine, 5-hydroxymethylcytosine, N4-alkylcytosine, and 4-thiouracil.
6. (Original) The immunostimulatory oligonucleotide compound of claim 4, wherein the non-naturally occurring pyrimidine base is selected from the group consisting of 5-hydroxycytosine and N4-ethylcytosine.
7. (Original) The immunostimulatory oligonucleotide compound of claim 4, wherein the non-natural pyrimidine nucleoside of formula (I) comprises a non-naturally occurring sugar moiety.
8. (Original) The immunostimulatory oligonucleotide compound of claim 7, wherein the non-naturally occurring sugar moiety is arabinose.
- 9-38. (Withdrawn)

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No fees are believed to be due with this amendment. If any fees are required, the Patent and Trademark Office is authorized to charge such fees to deposit account number 50-2285. If the Examiner believes that any discussion of this communication would be helpful, she is invited to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone at 781-933-6630.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 10/9/03

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